

REMARKS
CLAIM OBJECTIONS

The Examiner has objected to claims 18 and 19 based upon informalities. Claims 18-20 have been cancelled, and therefore these objections have been rendered moot.

REJECTIONS UNDER 35 U.S.C. § 102(b)

The Examiner has rejected claim 2 under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as being anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 4,861,742 to Bronstert et al. The Examiner opines that the compounds disclosed by Bronstert include a 4-lithio-benzyl moiety, which is considered to qualify as a functional group.

Claim 2 has been amended to specify that the functional group is selected from the group consisting of "amine groups, phosphines groups, ether groups, thio ether groups, seleno groups, silyl groups, alkyl tin groups, and short-chain thermoplastic polymer segments." Accordingly, claim 2 as amended, is believed to define over Bronstert.

The Examiner has rejected claims 18-20 under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as being anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 5,567,815 to Hall et al.

Claims 18-20 have been cancelled thereby rendering the rejection moot.

NEW CLAIMS

Claims 22-26 have been added. Support for these claims can be found within the written description as follows:

Dependent claim 22: page 7

Dependent claim 23: page 7

Dependent claim 24: page 7

Dependent claim 25: page 7

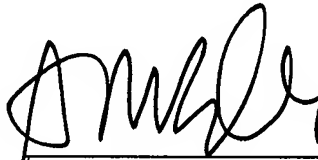
Dependent claim 26: page 6

CONCLUSION

In view of the foregoing amendments and arguments presented herein, the Applicants believe that they have properly set forth the invention and accordingly, respectfully requests the Examiner to reconsider the rejections provided in the last Office Action. A formal Notice of Allowance of claims 1-3, 5-10, 12-17 and 21-26 is earnestly solicited. Should the Examiner care to discuss any of the foregoing in greater detail, the undersigned attorney would welcome a telephone call.

The Commissioner is specifically authorized to charge Deposit Account No. 06-0925 in the amount of \$100.00 for the payment of the additional claims. In the event that an additional fee is due or that any amount should be credited, the Commissioner is authorized to charge any additions fees or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 06-0925.

Respectfully submitted,



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